

Caput XVIII – Present Passive System of the 1st/2nd Conjugations

Review “Present System”:

1st and 2nd Conjugation Verbs:

Active Voice:

Passive Voice:

- cf. the following two sentences:
 1. I praise the dog. 2. The dog is praised by me.

In English, the **Passive Voice** is formed:

Note: only transitive verbs are used in the passive!

Please transform each of the following sentences into the passive voice:

1. A good citizen will save the country.
2. Those men were destroying the city.
3. The gods warn Caesar.

In Latin, the **Passive Voice** of the **Present System** is formed using a special set of **PASSIVE** personal endings:

PASSIVE Personal Markers of the Present Active System:

	sing.	plural
1st	-r	-mur
2nd	-ris (-re*)	-minī
3rd	-tur	-ntur

As usual, then, to conjugate a verb in the passive voice in the present system:

Present Stem (w/stem vowel) + Tense Marker + Passive Personal Ending

So, the only difference between the conjugations of the active and passive verbs in the present system is in the use of each type of personal markers.

Present Passive of 1st/2nd Conj. Verbs:

- Combine the stem + passive markers
- As it did in the active voice, the 1st pers. sing. will present an “o” before the personal ending from the PIE theme vowel
- NOTE: the usual vowels will weaken, according to expected sound laws

amō, amāre – present passive indicative

	sing.	plural
1st		
2nd		
3rd		

videō, vidēre – present passive indicative

	sing.	plural
1st		
2nd		
3rd		

Imperfect Passive of 1st/2nd Conj. Verbs:

- Combine the stem + thematic vowel + “**ebā**” + passive personal markers
- The expected vowels undergo shortening.
- Helpful mnemonic for all Impfs.: “*Every imperfect has a ‘bā,’ they’re educated!*”

amō, amāre – imperf. passive indicative

	sing.	plural
1st		
2nd		
3rd		

videō, vidēre – imperf. passive indicative

	sing.	plural
1st		
2nd		
3rd		

Future Tense of 3rd Conj. Verbs:

- Combine stem + 1st/2nd conjug. fut. tense marker “**b^o/e**” + passive personal markers
- The vowels in that tense marker will weaken everywhere you would expect, but recall that a short “**i**” before “**r**” > **-er-** (cf. pres. act. inf. of 3rd-io conj.: **capīre** > **capere**)

amō, amāre – future passive indicative

	sing.	plural
1st		
2nd		
3rd		

videō, vidēre – future passive indicative

	sing.	plural
1st		
2nd		
3rd		

Present Passive Infinitive:

Stem + thematic vowel + pass. inf. ending (-sī) – allow for rhotacisation!

Give the Present Passive Infinitive of the following verbs:

amō [1]: _____ **moneō, -ēre:** _____

There are **NO Passive Imperatives** in use in Classical Latin, so you don't have to learn them (for the time being); we will actually find out what they look like next semester.

Ablative of Personal Agent: ā/ab + abl. = person by whom a passive action is done

ex: Caesar **ā dīs** admonētur.

Urbs **ab illīs** dēlēbātur.

Patria **ā bonō cīve** cōnservābitur.

If the action of a passive verb is performed by something other than a person, Latin employs the **Ablative of Means** (w/o prep.): (which you already know!)

ex: Caesar **signīs** admonētur.

Urbs **flammīs** dēlēbātur.

Patria **armīs** cōnservābitur.

Key Terms:

Passive Voice

Abl. of Personal Agent

Abl. of Means

Use this to review Present Passive System of Verbs: choose a verb and then fill in each of the following paradigms:

Verb: _____, _____, _____, _____

Pers.	PRESENT	FUTURE	IMPERFECT
Singular			
1 st			
2 nd			
3 rd			
Plural			
1 st			
2 nd			
3 rd			

Verb: _____, _____, _____, _____

Pers.	PRESENT	FUTURE	IMPERFECT
Singular			
1 st			
2 nd			
3 rd			
Plural			
1 st			
2 nd			
3 rd			